
CSE Style

The Council of Science Editors (CSE) publishes a style guide, *Scientific Style and Format*, which defines common citation formats used by biologists, earth scientists, geneticists and other scientists. The guide provides formatting rules that allow for consistency between references and their in-text citations.

This handout describes the “**Name-Year**”* (or “Harvard”) system as outlined in the 8th edition. CSE references require two components:

- 1) For in-text citations, the **Name-Year** system includes the author or authors and the year the document was published, e.g. (Jones 2008), or Jones and Watts (2008), or Jones et al. (2008).
- 2) For the reference list, cited sources are arranged alphabetically by the first author’s last name.

* The CSE uses three systems for referencing: 1) citation-sequence, 2) name-year, and 3) citation-name. This handout is only going to describe the Name-Year system.

General Rules of CSE

- Check your assignment guidelines. If no formatting guidelines are stated, assume 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with first-line indent and standard margins of 1” (2.54cm) on all sides.
- List authors’ last names followed by initials for first and middle names. **Do not** use periods, commas, or spaces between the initial and last name.
 - In-text: (Mahoney and Rood 1998)
 - Reference List: Mahoney JM, Rood SB. 1998. Streamflow requirements for cottonwood seedling recruitment—an integrative model. *Wetlands*. 18(4): 634-645.
- For in-text citations: If the work has **3 or more authors**, list the first author followed by “et al.” In the reference list, all authors must be named.
 - In text: (Steiner et al. 1992)
 - Reference List: Steiner U, Klein, J, Eiser E, Budkowski A, Fetters, LJ. 1992. Complete wetting from polymer mixtures. *Science*. 258: 1122-1129.
- Multiple sources within the same citation should be separated by a semicolon
 - E.g. (Mahoney and Rood 1998; Steiner et al. 1992)
- Taxonomic names: Write the Latin names/scientific names of the organisms in italics.
 - *Alces alces*, *Rangifer tarandus*, etc.
- Taxonomic grouping: When discussing the Family, Order, Class, etc., capitalize the first letter but do not italicize.
 - E.g. Carnivor, Diptera, Nematoda, Excavata, Archaea, Bryophyta.

Reference List

- List cited sources **alphabetically** by author’s surname.
- When there is more than one work by an author, organize those works **chronologically**.
- Only the **first letter** of a book/journal article should be capitalized.
- Journal article titles should not be italicized.
- If the work has **10 or more authors**, list the first 10 authors followed by et al.

Humrich JY, Morbach H, Undeutsch R, Enghard P, Rosenherger S, Weigert O, Kloke L, Heimann J, Gaber T, Brandenburg S, et al. 2010. Homeostatic imbalance of regulatory and effector T cells due to IL-2 deprivation amplifies murine lupus. PNAS. 107(1): 204-209.

In-text Citations

Place the last names of the author(s) followed by the year of publication, all enclosed in parentheses (before the period).

The binary polymer mixture model is an appealing candidate for studying the wetting phenomenon (Steiner 1992).

Reference List

Things to keep in mind:

- Your reference list should start on a new page. Use a page break (ctrl-enter, or insert>breaks) in your word processor to ensure it remains on its own page.
Your references should be arranged according to alphabetical order.
- Academic referencing styles typically use a hanging indent in their references section. Except for the first line, all other lines of reference must be indented at 0.5”. Use your word processor’s hanging indent formatting features rather than spacing or tabbing them manually.

Journal Articles (Periodicals)

General Format:

Author(s). Date. Article title. Journal title. Volume(issue):location. DOI/URL

Note: As of 9th edition, all reference entries are expected to have a DOI included, if available.

Format the DOI as an http link.

If no DOI is available, include a URL.

Type of Source	Reference List Example	In-text Citation
Journal article – two authors	Fauci AS, Lane HC. 2020. Four decades of HIV/AIDS—much accomplished, much to do. N Engl J Med. 383(1):1–4. https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMp1916753	(Fauci and Lane 2020)
Journal article – 3 to 5 authors	Haasnoot M, Lawrence J, Magnan AK. 2021. Pathways to coastal retreat. Science. 372(6548):1287–1290. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abi6594	(Haasnoot et al. 2021)
Two or more works by the same author, same year	Differentiate with “a”, “b”, etc. Lee SMC et al. 2020a. Arterial structure and function during and after long-duration spaceflight. J Appl Physiol. 129(1):108–123. https://doi.org/10.1152/jappphysiol.00550.2019 Lee SMC et al. 2020b. Efficacy of gradient compression garments in the hours after long-duration spaceflight. Front Physiol. 11:784. https://doi.org/10.3389/fphys.2020.00784	(Lee et al 2020a, 2020b)

Journal Titles

Journal titles are generally abbreviated according to the [List of Title Word Abbreviations](#) maintained by the ISSN International Centre. See [Appendix 29.1](#) in *The CSE Manual* for more information.

For example, Forest Ecology and Management Journal → Forest Ecol Manage.

If the journal consists of one word, there is no need to abbreviate it (e.g. Science).

To look up the appropriate abbreviation for a journal:

- <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals>
- <http://cassi.cas.org/search.jsp>
- Ask a UNBC librarian

Books

General Format (Print, without Editors):

Author(s). Date. Title. Edition. Publisher.

Type of Source	Reference List Example	In-text Citation
Book – print without editors or secondary authors	Thomas PA, Packham JR. 2007. Ecology of woodlands and forests: description, dynamics, and diversity. New York (NY): Cambridge University Press.	(Thomas and Packham 2007)
Book – print with editors or secondary authors	Luzikov VN. 1985. Mitochondrial biogenesis and breakdown. Galkin AV, translator; Roodyn DB, editor. Consultants Bureau.	(Luzikov 1985)
Chapter of a book, multiple authors	Geisslitz S, Scherf K. 2021. The holy grail of ancient cereals. In: Boukid F, editor. Cereal-based foodstuffs: the backbone of Mediterranean cuisine. Springer. p 269–301.	(Geisslitz and Scherf 2021)
Book – with organization as author	[ALSG] Advanced Life Support Group. 2001. Acute medical emergencies: the practical approach. London (England): BMJ Books.	(ALSG 2001)
Book – unnamed or anonymous author	The pharmacological basis of therapeutics. 8th ed. 1990. New York: Pergamon.	(The pharmacological basis...c1990)

*Pagination: not required for the entire book; only included if you are citing parts of a book, chapter, tables, charts, etc.

** “c” represents the year of copyright for the work

Websites

References to websites and other online formats follow the same general principles as for other references, with the addition of a date of update/revision (if available) along with a URL.

General format:

Author. Date. Title of article. Publisher; [date updated]. URL

If no author is listed, cite under the title of the article or other component. For the in-text reference, include only the first word or two of the title (enough to distinguish it from other titles in the reference list), followed by an ellipsis.

Type of Source	Reference List Example	In-text Citation
Website	Health equity considerations and racial and ethnic minority groups. 2020 Apr 30. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Division of Viral Diseases; [updated 2022 Jan 25]. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/health-equity/race-ethnicity.html	(Health equity . . . 2020)
Website – no date available	Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary, Chicago, Illinois. [date unknown]. Google Maps; [accessed 2022 Jan 3]. https://goo.gl/maps/GJALYGBXFZ8TSGK5A	(Montrose Point . . . [date unknown])

School Materials

General format (Lab Manuals):

Author(s). Date of publication. Title. In: Title of document. University Institution. Location. Publisher. Pagination.

General format (Lecture Notes):

Author(s), lecturer. Date. Title of lecture [content designation]. Location of lecture: University Institution.

Type of Source	Reference List Example	In-text Citation
Lab Manual	Issaprof J. 2011. Lab 9 Genes. In: Biology 101 laboratory manual. University of Northern British Columbia. Prince George, BC. UNBC Press. p. 98-103.	(Issaprof 2011)
Lecture Notes	Schindler D, lecturer. 2010 Mar 23. The ebb and flow of science and communication: from detergents to tar sands. [lecture]. Peterborough (ON): Trent University.	(Schindler 2010)